

Curriculum Development for the University of Massachusetts-Lowell's Radiological Sciences Program

Executive Summary

The new administration of the University of Massachusetts-Lowell (UML), in recognition of expected growth in the nuclear power industry, has made a strong commitment to invigorate the nuclear science education programs at UML, including degree programs in Radiological Sciences and Nuclear Engineering. This commitment has been demonstrated by the recent hiring of a senior faculty member in the Radiological Sciences Program and an expressed intent to hire more faculty members for this program in the near future. This hiring initiative will effectively double the number of faculty in the Radiological Sciences Program, permitting substantial academic growth and the opportunity to update and expand the program curriculum at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Our objectives, therefore, are to substantially improve the current UML Radiological Sciences academic curriculum to meet the current and future demands of the nuclear industry, and to comply with the ABET accreditation criteria for Health Physics programs. The requested funding will be used to create four new courses in applied health physics, including supplemental laboratory equipment. The duration of the project is two years, and the curriculum development efforts will be sustained through the attainment and ongoing efforts to maintain ABET accreditation, an annual review of the curriculum development program, and ongoing efforts to satisfy the academic requirements for ABHP certification.

Principle Investigator: Mark Tries, Mark_Tries@uml.edu